Vol. IX. Numb. 66.

THE OBSERVATOR.

On the Neceſſity of enabling King Charles *to purſue his Victories in* Spain. *The Truth of them confirm'd. On the Addreſs from* Worceſter *of* Auguſt 12.

From Wedneſday, Auguſt 30. to Saturday, September 2. 1710.

Countrym. WE have had no talk about the Affairs of *Spain* a pretty while, Maſter; pray oblige me with your Opinion about the ſecond Victory there, for ſome People queſtion the Truth of it, and ſay we have nothing for it yet but Hearſay.

Obſ. Thoſe People would rather we had been defeated than victorious, *Roger*, eſpecially ſince General *Stanhope*, whom they repreſent as a Man of Antimonarchical Principles, had ſo great a hand in obtaining thoſe Victories; but I ſee no reaſon to doubt the Truth of that ſecond Victory, tho we have not yet had an Account of all the Particulars. The Victory muſt needs be certain, *Roger*, ſince the Marquiſs of *Mirabella* Governor of *Saragoſſa* ſays, it was obtain'd not far from the Gates of that City; which is as much as to ſay, he was an Eye-Witneſs of it: and that it was conſiderable, appears from his Confeſſion, that all was in Confuſion in that place when he left it, otherwiſe we have no reaſon to think he wou'd have abandon'd his Government of the Capital City of the Kingdom of *Arragon*, and ſcour'd off to *Tudela*, which is fifty or ſixty miles diſtant; ſo that being in ſuch a mortal Fright, we had no reaſon to expect Particulars from him. Beſides, *Roger*, 'tis not upon his Teſtimony alone that this News is founded, it comes from the Governors of ſeveral of the *French* Gariſons on the Frontiers of *Spain*, and alſo from the Viceroy of *Navarre*, who ſent for Great Guns and Ammunition, that he might be in a condition to oppoſe the victorious Army if they came that way. The Victory is own'd at the *French* Court, and by the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſador there, as appears by the Letters of neutral Miniſters; ſo that there's little room to doubt of it.

Countrym. I am glad of it, Maſter; pray give me your Thoughts of what may be the Conſequences of theſe Victories.

Obſ. That depends upon King *Charles*'s being duly ſupported by Men and Mony, *Roger*, ſo as he may be enabled to purſue the Blow. We ſee the Allies can fight and conquer there as well as in other Places, when they are ſupply'd with proper means for it; therefore I am of Opinion, that if King *Charles* be not neglected, he may ſpeedily oblige the Duke of *Anjou* to evacuate the *Spaniſh* Monarchy by his Arms, tho the *French* King refus'd to do it by the Preliminaries.

Countrym. I take that to be a juſt Judgment upon the *French* King, Maſter, for chicaning with the Allies, and entering into a League with the Duke of *Anjou* and his *Spaniſh* Faction to ſupport him on the Throne, provided they would ſhare the *Weſt Indies* with the *French*; while at the ſame time he was treating with the Confederates, and making all poſſible Proteſtations of his Sincerity.

Obſ. His Sins have begun to find him out, *Roger*; he that was for ſo many years the Scourge of *Europe*, has now for ſeveral ſucceeding years been ſcourg'd by the Hand of God and Man in the face of all the World, that other Tyrants and Perſecutors may learn to hear and fear. All his *ſecret Springs* have fail'd him, and *the unforeſeen Events* founded upon his Plots have hitherto ſtood him in little ſtead, however his Clergy flatter'd him with them. The Judg of all the Earth, who ever acts righteouſly, has ſcatter'd his People that delight in War, and made them to fly from time time before their Enemies, contrary to the hypocritical Prayers of his own Clergy, and perhaps of ſome others, who pray contrary to what they preach, and preach contrary to what they practiſe.

Countrym. You ſtill talk of ſupporting K. *Charles* with Men and Mony. Is not his Brother the Emperor able to do it, Maſter? Muſt we always be at the Charge? Why are not the Revenues of *Naples*, *Milan*, *Bavaria*, the *Netherlands*, and *Catalonia*, reconquer'd from the *French*, apply'd that way?

Obſ. You may perceive by the Troops which the Emperor ſends him from time to time, *Roger*, that his Imperial Majeſty is not wanting to do his utmoſt to ſupport King *Charles*. We may depend upon it, that whatever ſome others may do, the Emperor does not play booty; his Honour and Intereſt are too much concern'd to admit of any ſuch Suggeſtion. Beſides, *Roger*, if we conſider all things, we are rather to wonder the Emperor could do ſo much, than to blame him for doing ſo little. The War of *Hungary*, fomented by the *French*, exhauſts his Hereditary Dominions; and the Intrigues of the *French* on one ſide, and of the Jeſuited High-Church on the other, has made it impoſſible for him to bring that War to a Concluſion. Then as to the Empire, you ſee that all the Remonſtrances hitherto made by his Imperial Majeſty and his Allies, have not been able to make the *Germans* act the neceſſary part for their own Defence, which has oblig'd the Elector of *Hanover* to lay down the Command of their Army, by which he cou'd gain nothing but Danger and Diſgrace. As to the Electorate of *Bavaria*, if we conſider the Charge which the Emperor is at to maintain Gariſons there, and how much the Country has been exhauſted by their own Prince, by the *French*, and by the Allies, while 'twas the Seat of the War, we may be ſatisfy'd that there is not much to be expected from thence. For the reconquer'd Dominions in *Italy*, we may ſay the ſame: They were a long time the Seat of the War; beſides part of them has been given to the Duke of *Savoy*, who is ſtill craving more; which, togeeher with the Expence of the Government and Gariſons, make thoſe Dominions capable of yielding little, and what they do muſt go to the Support of King *Charles*, to whom ſuch a ſmall Country as *Catalonia*, that has been ſo long the Seat of War, can't yield much.

The

The ſame holds as to the Reconquer'd Provinces of the *Netherlands*; by all which it will appear, *Roger*, to every impartial Conſiderer, that King *Charles* muſt chiefly be ſupported by us and the *Dutch*.

Countrym. Your Arguments have convinc'd me of that, Maſter; for what you ſay of thoſe Countries is plain by all the publick News.

Obſ. I muſt own, *Roger*, 'tis hard upon us; but Neceſſity has no Law. By ſupporting K. *Charles*, we ſupport our ſelves; we defeat the *French* King's Deſign of making himſelf Maſter of the *Spaniſh* Monarchy and the *Weſt-Indies*, according to his new fraudulent Treaty: which could he have been able to effect, all *Europe* muſt have ſubmitted to his Chains. His Grandſon and he would then have been in a condition to impoſe the Pretender upon us by Force of Arms, without the help of our traitorous Compounders, Unlimited Paſſive-Obedience and Indefeaſible Hereditary-Right-Men; whom he employs to *play his ſecret Springs*, and bring about his *unforeſeen Events among us*: For it appears by the *Paris* Gazettes, *&c.* that he and they keep a cloſe Communication of Counſels and Meaſures. But we have reaſon to bleſs God, *Roger*, that the two late Victories in *Spain* have in a great meaſure diſconcerted their Projects; and if that Providence be improv'd, by furniſhing King *Charles* duly with the Mony appropriated for that end by Act of Parliament, we may ſoon hope to be at an end of that Charge, to have *Spain* act for us, as it has done for many years againſt us, and to have our Trade enlarg'd to that Kingdom and the *Weſt-Indies*, which we have ſo long been cramp'd in or depriv'd of. I think the Confederates there, as well as in *Flanders*, have given ſufficient proofs that inſtead of *delighting in War*, they have done all that was poſſible to finiſh it, either by the Sword or by an honourable Peace; and if we have not one now, 'twill be our own fault. If there be no further cauſe to complain of Deficiencies of the Men and Mony ſtipulated for in *Spain*, we have reaſon to hope for Help from K. *Charles* in a little time, inſtead of being oblig'd to ſend Aſſiſtance to him.

Countrym. 'Tis a common Maxim, That we ought to drive the Nail that will go: Therefore ſince the *French* keep us at a bay by their Strong Towns in the *Netherlands*, that there's nothing done on the ſide of *Piedmont*, *Portugal*, and *Germany*; and that the *French* have not only begun to fly before us in *Spain*, but their main Strength ſeems to be broke there: I am of your opinion, Maſter, that we ought to follow the Blow on that ſide, and not ſuffer the *French* to recover themſelves a ſecond time, by reinforcing the Duke of *Anjou* on the ſide of *Navarre* and *Rouſſillon*.

Obſ. We might hope to ſucceed much better, *Roger*, did we not provoke God by our inteſtine Diviſions, unnatural Ferments, and the baſe Surrender which a Faction among us is attempting to make of thoſe Liberties that Heaven reſtor'd to us by means of K. *William* at the Revolution. This weakens our hands at home, abates the Confidence of our Allies abroad, and encourages the *French* to think of a new Invaſion upon us. You ſeee how induſtrious the Faction is, ſtill to alarm the Nation with a noiſe of the Danger of the Church, notwithſtanding the Declaration of her Majeſty and both Houſes of Parliament to the contrary: particularly in the Addreſs from *Worceſter*, in the *Poſt-Boy* of Tueſday laſt, where they have the boldneſs to call Dr. *Sacheverel's Tryal* that of the Church. This is directly to fly in her Majeſty's face, who approv'd that Tryal as neceſſary; [illegible] arraign both Houſes of Parliament, as if [illegible] had impeach'd the Church, and the [illegible] con-demn'd it.

Countrym. Certainly this is ſuch a [illegible] inſolence, as no Faction, except in open [illegible], was ever guilty of till now; and if any Parlia[illegible] or new, overlook ſuch impudent Attacks upon [illegible] Conſtitution and ſtanding Laws, 'twill be very ſtra[illegible] with ſome Men had been endow'd with a little more Compaſſion to their own dear Perſons, than to lay themſelves open to the juſt Cenſure both of Lords and Commons, and that they had not declar'd ſo plainly for *Unlimited Obedience*, contrary to the Declaration of Rights, and the ſeveral Acts that ſettle the Proteſtant Succeſſion with Limitations: while at the ſame time theſe wiſe Addreſſers are guilty of a Contradiction, by limiting their Unlimited Obedience with a *Regard to the Liberties and Franchiſes of their Fellow-Subjects, and a due Tenderneſs to Conſciences truly ſcrupulous.* I am afraid, Maſter, their own Conſciences are not ſcrupulous enough to deſerve the like Regard from others: for they ſeem to be capable of ſtretching as far as a *Welſh* Man's Hoſe, ſince they can charge both Queen and Parliament with Jeſuitical Principles.

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